

Application No. 09/626,566  
Filed: July 27, 2000  
Group Art Unit: 1651  
Confirmation No.: 9704

REMARKS

The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reinstate claims the withdrawn claims and reconsider the patentability of all the pending claims. Claims 25, 29, 49 and 50 are hereby cancelled. Claims 8, 22, 43-48 and 51-61, as amended above, are submitted as being within the scope of the elected claims. The Applicants stipulate for the record that the patentability of the indicated claims as amended depends on the patentability of the substituent group -M-P and that the remaining portions of the claimed compounds are within the prior art and the skill of the ordinary artisan.

Applicants' cancellation of certain rejected claims is not to be construed as an admission that the Examiner's rejections were proper. The Applicants continue to believe that the rejected claims are described in and enabled by the specification, and are not obvious in view of the cited references. The rejected claims have been cancelled for the sole purpose of advancing the case to allowance. The Applicants reserve the right to file continuing application(s) to continue the prosecution of the rejected claims.

The title has been amended and is believed to be acceptable.

With reference to the IDS's, the Applicants believe that the Examiner can obtain replacement copies of all of the cited patent document references. The Applicants are sending replacement

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copies of all of the cited literature references under separate cover.

The Applicants have carefully amended the remaining claims and believe that they are definite and fully supported in the specification. No new matter has been added. In certain claims, the Applicants have amended the substituent group  $\text{PO}_3\text{Na}_2$  to read " $\text{PO}_3\text{B}$ " and have defined B to be a divalent or two monovalent cations selected from the group consisting of  $\text{Na}_2$ ,  $\text{H}_2$ ,  $\text{K}_2$ , Ca and Mg. In certain claims, the Applicants have amended the ring structure, as indicated.

Thus, the Applicants submit that the indicated claims are in condition for allowance and such action is requested.

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The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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